

-7-

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 10, 11, 14 and 15 have been canceled, Claims 8, 9, 12, 13 and 17-20 have been amended and new Claims 21-38 have been added.

Claim 8 has been amended to recite "[a] method of treating an allergic or inflammatory condition associated with IgE-mediated degranulation comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of an agent that binds to CD81 and inhibits IgE-mediated degranulation." Support for this recitation can be found, for example, at page 2, lines 10-11, page 5, lines 31-33, page 6, lines 2-5, page 12, lines 8-16, page 13, lines 22-25, page 18, lines 6-12, page 19, lines 3-12, Figures 7A-7D and Figures 12A-D.

Claim 9 has been amended to have proper antecedent basis.

Claim 12 has been amended to recite "[a] method of inducing an inflammatory response comprising administering to a mammal an effective amount of an agent that binds to CD81 and induces IgE-mediated degranulation". Support for this recitation can be found, for example, at page 3, lines 7-9 and page 18, line 24 to page 19, line 2.

Claim 13 has been amended to recite "wherein the inflammatory response is associated with the release of leukotrienes and/or cytokines." Support for this recitation can be found, for example, at page 18, line 24 to page 19, line 2.

Claim 19 has been amended to recite "an agent that binds to CD81 and inhibits IgE-mediated degranulation." Support for this recitation can be found, for example, at page 2, lines 10-11, page 5, lines 31-33, page 13, lines 22-25, page 18, lines 6-12 and Figures 10A and 10B.

Support for new Claims 21, 22 and 38 is found, for example, at page 2, lines 7-8 and page 12, lines 8-16.

Support for new Claim 23 is found, for example, at page 19, lines 3-12.

Support for new Claim 24 is found, for example, at page 2, lines 10-11.

Support for new Claim 25 is found, for example, at page 15, line 7 to page 16, line 2.

Support for new Claim 26 is found, for example, at page 17, line 26 to page 18, line 12.

Support for new Claim 27 is found, for example, at page 18, lines 24-26.

Support for new Claims 28 and 29 is found, for example, at page 3, lines 13-19 and page 20, line 25 to page 21, line 2.

-8-

Support for new Claim 30 is found, for example, at page 7, lines 1-18, page 9, lines 27-31, page 10, lines 8-32 and page 12, lines 5-8.

Support for new Claims 31-33 is found, for example, at page 21, lines 17-19.

Support for new Claim 34 is found, for example, at page 3, lines 13-19, page 14, lines 14-23, page 22, line 29 to page 23, line 11 and Figures 7A-7D.

Support for new Claims 35 and 36 is found, for example, at page 5, lines 6-7, page 6, lines 5-11, page 12, lines 22-23, page 18, lines 20-21 and page 21, lines 25-27.

Support for new Claim 37 is found, for example, at page 13, line 32 to page 14, line 2, page 16, lines 23 to page 17, line 6 and page 25, lines 15-31.

Therefore, the amended and new claims are supported by the subject application as originally filed and this Amendment adds no new matter.

Change of Contact Person

Please note that the contact person for the above captioned application has changed. Please direct all telephone calls to Doreen M. Hogle at (978) 341-0036, and all facsimile communications to (978) 341-0136. Please also note that the correspondence address remains: Customer Number 021005, Hamilton, Brook, Smith & Reynolds, P.C., 530 Virginia Road, P.O. Box 9133, Concord, Massachusetts 01742-9133.

-9-

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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